

To Whomever It May Concern:

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get much more of what's good for their profit margins and their shareholders and much less of what we need for our democracy. If Sinclair's policy were fair and even-handed, we would also be inundated with a documentary about George W. Bush's failure to honorably fulfill his military service.

Additionally, instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.